Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 05509 191156Z

42
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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P 191004Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4311

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5509

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, OVIP (MCGOVERN, SENATOR GEORGE)
SUBJECT: CODEL MCGOVERN

REF: STATE 222849

1. FOLLOWING HIS CONVERSATION WITH MITTERRAND (REFTEL) MCGOVERN ARRIVED VIRTUALLY HAVING DECIDED TO SEE CUNHAL. HE IS BEING EGGED ON BY HIS TWO AIDES.

2. LAST NIGHT SOARES, PPD SECRETARY GENERAL EMIDIO GUERREIRO AND I HIT HIM VERY HARD ON THE SUBJECT. SOARES TOLD HIM THAT VISIT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT IF HE WERE A JOURNALIST BUT AS A STATESMAN HE WOULD DO NOTHING BUT "AID THE OTHER SIDE." HE LATER TOLD ME VISIT BY MCGOVERN TO CUNHAL WOULD BE THE EQUIVALENT OF A VISIT BY A PORTUGUESE LEADER TO NORTH KOREA AT THE TIME OF THE KOREAN WAR. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT HE, SOARES, HAD BEEN THE ONLY PROMINENT PORTUGUESE TO APPEAR AT OUR FOURTH OF JULY PARTY WHILE THE GOVERNMENT WAS BOYCOTTING IT. NOTING HOW WELL HE HAD COOPERATED WITH US DURING THE GOVERNMENT NEGOTIA-TIONS, SOARES WONDERED IF THIS WAS THE WAY THE U.S. REPAID HIM.

3. THIS MORNING I HAD A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH MCGOVERN IN WHICH I TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD DO UNTOLD DAMAGE TO THE USG AND TO OUR RELATIONS WITH SOARES IF HE WERE TO PROCEED WITH HIS PROPOSED VISIT. UNLESS HE IS TURNED AROUND BY HIS STAFF AIDES I THINK MCGOVERN HAS NOW AGREED NOT TO SEE CUNHAL.
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